Blueprint for a Clean Bay

Best Management Practices for the Construction Industry

Remember: The property owner and the contractor share ultimate responsibility for the activities that occur on a construction site. You may be held responsible for any environmental damage caused by your subcontractors or employees.



Preventing Pollution: It's Up to Us

In the Santa Clara Valley, storm drains transport water directly to local creeks and San Francisco Bay without treatment. Stormwater pollution is a serious problem for wildlife dependent on our creeks and bays and for the people who live near polluted streams or baylands. Common sources of this pollution include spilled oil, fuel, and fluids from vehicles and heavy equipment; construction debris; sediment created by erosion; landscaping runoff containing pesticides or weed killers; and materials such as used motor oil, antifreeze, and paint products that people pour or spill into a street or storm drain.



General

and Site

Construction

Supervision

Who should use

Site Supervisors

Home Builders

Developers

Homeowners

Inspectors

this information?

General Contractors

creeks and the Bay.

Pollution Prevention Program

Thirteen valley municipalities have joined together with Santa Clara County and the Santa Clara Valley Water District to educate local residents and businesses and fight stormwater pollution. This "blueprint" summarizes "Best Management Practices (BMPs) for stormwater pollution prevention.

In the City of Sunnyvale, DIAL 9-1-1. State Office of Emergency Service Warning Center (24 hours)

Spill Response Agencies:

. .1-800-852-7550 Santa Clara County Environmental

Waste Disposal Program

Santa Clara County businesses that

generate less than 27 gallons or 220

Business Hazardous Waste Disposal

pounds of hazardous waste per month are

eligible to use Santa Clara County's Small

Program. Call (408) 299-7300 for a quote,

more information or guidance on disposal.

Health Sevices . .(408) 299-6930

Santa Clara County Hazardous Waste Program **Small Business Hazardous** For information on the disposal of hazardous waste

Management Program

County of Santa Clara District Attorney **Environmental Crimes Hotline** (408) 299-TIPS Santa Clara Valley Water District

. (408) 265-2600 Santa Clara Valley Water

District Pollution Hotline 1-888-510-5151

for leaks.

Local Pollution Control Agencies:

County of Santa Clara Santa Clara County Recycling Hotline Pollution Prevention Program 1-800-533-8414 (408) 441-1195

Regional Water Quality Control Board County of Santa Clara Integrated Waste . (510) 622-2300 Serving San Francisco Bay Region (408) 441-1198

Sunnyvale Water Pollution Control Plant

 Plasterers (408) 730-7270 Graphic Artists Sunnyvale Recycling Program Dry Wall Crews (408) 730-7262 Floor Covering Or visit www.ci.sunnyvale.ca.us/recycle

SMaRT Station® (GreenTeam/Zanker of Sunnyvale) Recycling Drop-Off Center,

Garbage Disposal (408) 752-8530

Materials/Waste Handling

☐ Practice Source Reduction -- minimize waste when you order materials. Order only the amount you need to finish the

☐ Use recyclable materials whenever possible. Arrange for pick-up of recyclable materials such as concrete, asphalt, scrap metal, solvents, degreasers, cleared vegetation, paper, rock, and vehicle maintenance materials such as used oil, antifreeze, batteries, and tires.

☐ Place portable toilets away from storm drains. Make sure

portable toilets are in good working order. Check frequently

Dispose of all wastes properly. Many construction materials and wastes, including solvents, water-based paints, vehicle fluids, broken asphalt and concrete, wood, and cleared vegetation can be recycled. (See Sunnyvale Recycling Program information listed above.) Materials that cannot be recycled must be taken to an appropriate landfill or disposed of as hazardous waste. Never bury waste materials or leave them in the street or near a creek or stream bed.

Permits

☐ In addition to local grading and building permits, you will need to obtain coverage under the State's General Construction Activity Stormwater Permit if your construction site's disturbed area totals 1 acre or more. Information on the General Permit can be obtained from the Regional Water Quality Control Board.

Doing the Job Right General Principles

- Keep an orderly site and ensure good housekeeping
- Maintain equipment properly.
- drainage channels.

- ☐ Schedule excavation and grading activities for dry weather periods. To reduce soil erosion, plant temporary vegetation or place other erosion controls before rain begins. Use the Erosion and Sediment Control Field Manual, available form the Regional Water Quality Control Board San
- Control the amount of runoff crossing your site (especially during excavation!) by using berms or temporary or permanent drainage ditches to divert water flow around the site. Reduce stormwater runoff velocities by constructing temporary check dams or berms where appropriate.
- As a contractor, or site supervisor, owner or operator of a site, you may be responsible for any environmental damage caused by your subcontractors or employees.

- practices are used.
- Cover materials when they are not in use.
- ☐ Keep materials away from streets, storm drains and
- ☐ Ensure dust control water doesn't leave site or discharge to storm drains.

Advance Planning To Prevent Pollution

- Francisco Bay Region, as a reference.
- I Train your employees and subcontractors. Make sure everyone who works at the construction site is familiar with this information. Inform subcontractors about the stormwater requirements and their own responsibilities. Use BAASMA, *Blueprint for a Clean Bay*, a construction best

Clara Valley Urban Runoff Pollution Prevention Program, and California Storm Water Quality Association Stormwater Best Management Practice Handbook: Construction; (Jan 2003) as references.

management practices guide available from the Santa

Good Housekeeping Practices

- Designate one area of the site for auto parking, vehicle refueling, and routine equipment maintenance. The designated area should be well away from streams or storm drain inlets, bermed if necessary. Make major repairs off site.
- ☐ Keep materials out of the rain prevent runoff contamination at the source. Cover exposed piles of soil or construction materials with plastic sheeting or temporary roofs. Before it rains, sweep and remove materials from surfaces that drain to storm drains, creeks, or channels.
- ☐ Keep pollutants off exposed surfaces. Place trash cans and recycling receptacles around the site to minimize litter. ☐ Clean up leaks, drips and other spills immediately so they do not contaminate soil or groundwater or leave residue on
- paved surfaces. ☐ Never hose down "dirty" pavement or surfaces where materials have spilled.
- ☐ Use dry cleanup methods whenever possible. If you must use water, use just enough to keep the dust down. ☐ Cover and maintain dumpsters. Check frequently for leaks. Place dumpsters under roofs or cover with tarps or plastic sheeting secured around the outside of the dumpster.

Never clean out a dumpster by hosing it down on the

Earth-Moving and **Dewatering Activities**

Storm Drain Pollution from

Construction Activities

Construction sites are common sources of storm water

pollution. Materials and wastes that blow or wash into a

storm drain, gutter, or street have a direct impact on local

Who should use this information?



- Machine Operators
- Site Supervisors
- General Contractors
- Home Builders

Developers

Dump Truck Drivers

Storm Drain Pollution from Doing the Job Right Earth-Moving Activities

Soil excavation and grading operations or blow into storm drains when handled storm drains, smother aquatic life, and destroy habitats in creeks and the Bay. Effective erosion control practices reduce the amount of runoff crossing a site and slow the flow with check dams or

oughened ground surfaces. Contaminated groundwater is a mmon problem in the Santa Clara /alley. Depending on soil types and site history, groundwater pumped from Bulldozer, Back Hoe, and Grading | construction sites may be contaminated with toxics (such as oil or solvents) or laden with sediments. Any of these pollutants can harm wildlife in creeks or the Bay, or interfere with wastewater

treatment plant operation. Discharging

site into any water of the state without

treatment is prohibited.

sediment-laden water from a dewatering

General Business Practices

- during dry weather. loosen large amounts of soil that can flow | Perform major equipment repairs away from the job site.

 - Practices During Construction Remove existing vegetation only when absolutely necessary. Plant temporary vegetation for erosion control on

- ☐ Schedule excavation and grading work
- improperly. Sediments in runoff can clog | 🔲 When refueling or vehicle/equipment maintenance must be done on site. designate a location away from storm ☐ Do not use diesel oil to lubricate
 - equipment parts, or clean equipment.
 - slopes or where construction is not
 - immediately planned. ☐ Protect downslope drainage courses. streams, and storm drains with wattles, or temporary drainage swales. Use check dams or ditches to divert runoff around excavations. Refer to the Regional Water Quality Control Board's Erosion and Sediment Control

Field Manual for proper erosion and sediment control measures, and California Stormwater Quality

construction site.

- Association Stormwater Best Management Practice Handbook (construction, 2003)
- Cover stockpiles and excavated soil with secured tarps or plastic sheeting. Dewatering Operations
- Check for Toxic Pollutants ☐ Check for odors, discoloration, or an
- oily sheen on groundwater. ☐ Call your local wastewater treatment agency and ask whether the
- groundwater must be tested. ☐ If contamination is suspected, have the
- water tested by a certified laboratory. Depending on the test results, you may be allowed to discharge pumped groundwater to the storm drain (if no sediments present) or sanitary sewer. OR, you may be required to collect and haul pumped groundwater offsite for treatment and disposal at an appropriate treatment facility.

Check for Sediment Levels

- ☐ If the water is clear, the pumping time is less than 24 hours, and the flow rate is less than 20 gallons per minute, you may pump water to the street or storm drain. ☐ If the pumping time is more than 24 hours and the flow rate greater than 20 gpm, call
- your local wastewater treatment plant for quidance. ☐ If the water is not clear, solids must be filtered or settled out by pumping to a settling tank
- prior to discharge. Options for filtering Pumping through a perforate pipe sunk part way into a small pit filled with
- Pumping from a bucket placed below water level using a submersible pump; Pumping through a filtering device such
- as a swimming pool filter or filter fabric wrapped around end of suction pipe. ☐ When discharging to a storm drain, protect the inlet using a barrier of burlap bags filled with drain rock, or cover inlet with filter fabric anchored under the grate. OR pump water

Detecting **Contaminated Soil** or Groundwater

- ontaminated groundwater s a common problem in the Santa Clara Valley. It is essential that all contractors
- and subcontractors involved now what to look for in letecting contaminated soil r groundwater, and testing ponded groundwater before pumping. Watch for any of these conditions:
- Unusual soil conditions, discoloration or odor. Abandoned under-
- ground tanks. Abandoned wells. Buried barrels, debris or
- If any of these are found through a grassy swale prior to discharge. follow the procedures below.

Fresh concrete and cement-related mortars that wash into lakes, streams, or estuaries are toxic to fish and the aquatic environment. Disposing of these materials to the storm drains or creeks can block storm drains, causes serious problems, and is prohibited by law.

Who should use this information?

- Masons and Bricklayers
- Sidewalk Construction Crews
- Construction Inspectors
- General Contractors Home Builders Developers
- Concrete Delivery/Pumping Workers

- in your yard, away from storm drains and waterways, where the water will flow into a temporary waste pit in a dirt area. Let water percolate through soil and dispose of settled, hardened concrete as garbage. Whenever possible, recycle washout by pumping back into mixers for reuse.
- streets or drains. Always store both dry and wet materials under cover.
- ☐ Secure bags of cement after they are open. Be sure to keep wind-blown cement powder away from streets, gutters, storm
- Do not use diesel fuel as a lubricant on concrete forms, tools, or trailers.

Paint Removal

- ☐ Buildings constructed before 1978 may have lead paint in them. Test paint for lead by taking samples to a local environmental testing laboratory to determine if removed
- paint must be disposed of as hazardous waste. ☐ Paint chips and dust from non-hazardous dry stripping and sand blasting may be swept up or collected in plastic drop cloths and disposed of as trash.
- ☐ Chemical paint stripping residue and chips and dust from marine paints or paints containing lead, mercury or tributyl tin must be disposed of as hazardous wastes. Lead based paint removal requires a state-certified contractor.
- ☐ When stripping or cleaning building exteriors with high-pressure water, block storm drains. Direct wash water onto a dirt area, or check Sunnyvale Water Pollution Control Plant (408) 730-7270 to find out if you can collect (mop or vacuum) building cleaning water and dispose to the sanitary sewer. Sampling of the water may be required to assist the wastewater treatment authority in making its

Painting Cleanup

- ☐ Never clean brushes or rinse paint containers into a street, gutter, storm drain, French drain, or stream.
- ☐ For water-based paints, paint out brushes to the extent possible, and rinse into a drain that goes to the sanitary

- sewer. Never pour paint down a storm drain. Dispose of excess liquids and residue as hazardous waste.
- ☐ For oil-based paints, paint out brushes to the extent possible and clean with thinner or solvent in a proper container. Filter and reuse thinners and solvents. Dispose of excess liquids and residue as hazardous waste.
- ☐ When thoroughly dry, empty paint cans, used brushes, rags, and drop cloths may be disposed of as garbage in a sanitary landfill. Leave lids off paint cans so the refuse collector cam see that they are empty. Empty, dry paint cans also may be recycled as metal.
- ☐ Dispose of empty aerosol paint cans as hazardous waste or at household hazardous waste collection events.

Recycle/Reuse Leftover Paints

- Whenever Possible ☐ Donate excess water-based (latex) paint for reuse. Call the Santa Clara County Hazardous Waste Program at (408) 299-7300 for details.
- Reuse leftover oil-based paint. Dispose of non-recyclable thinners, sludge and unwanted paint, as hazardous
- ☐ Unopened cans of paint may be able to be returned to the paint vendor. Check with the vendor regarding its "buy-back" policy.

Landscaping, Gardening, And Pool Maintenance

watercourses.

Storm Drain Pollution from

Paints, Solvents,

and Adhesives

All paints, solvents, and adhesives contain

chemicals that are harmful to wildlife in

local creeks, San Francisco Bay, and the

cleaning residues or rags. Paint material

and wastes, adhesives and cleaning fluids

materials from flowing into storm drains and

from liquid or solid products or from

should be recycled when possible, or

disposed of properly to prevent these

Pacific Ocean. Toxic chemicals may come

Who should use this information?

Painting and Application

of Solvents and

Who should use this

Adhesives

information?

Paperhangers

Installers

Developers

Homeowners

Home Builders

General Contractors

Painters

- Landscapers
- Gardeners Swimming Pool/Spa Service and Repair Workers
- General Contractors
- Home Builders Developers Homeowners

Storm Drain Pollution from Landscaping and **Swimming Pool Maintenance**

Many landscaping activities expose soils and increase the likelihood that earth and garden chemicals will run off into the storm drains during irrigation or when it rains. Swimming pool water containing chlorine and copper-based algaecides should never be discharged to storm drains. These chemicals are toxic to aquatic life

Doing the Job Right General Business Practices

Doing the Job Right

Handling Paint Products

☐ Keep all liquid paint products and wastes away

from the gutter, street, and storm drains. Liquid

residues from paints, thinners, solvents, glues,

and cleaning fluids are hazardous wastes and

must be disposed of as hazardous. Contact

Wash water from painted buildings constructed

before 1978 can contain high amounts of lead,

even if paint chips are not present. Before you

begin stripping paint or cleaning pre-1978

pressure, test paint for lead by taking paint

scrapings to a local laboratory. See Yellow

If there is loose paint on the building, or if the

paint tests positive for lead, block storm drains.

Check with the wastewater treatment plant to

determine whether you may discharge water to

the sanitary sewer, or if you must send it offsite

Pages for a state-certified laboratory.

for disposal as hazardous waste.

building exteriors with water under high

the Santa Clara County Hazardous Waste

Program at (408) 299-7300.

- ☐ Protect stockpiles (e.g. asphalt, sand, or soil) and landscaping materials from wind and rain by storing them under tarps or secured plastic sheeting.
- ☐ Store pesticides, fertilizers, and other chemicals indoors or in a shed or storage cabinet.
- ☐ Schedule grading and excavation projects during dry
- ☐ Use temporary check dams or ditches to divert runoff away from storm drains. ☐ Protect storm drains with sandbags or other sediment
- ☐ Revegetation is an excellent form of erosion control for any site. Replant as soon as possible with temporary

Landscaping/Garden Maintenance

vegetation such as grass seed.

- ☐ Consider using Integrated Pest Management Techniques. Use pesticides sparingly, according to instructions on the label. Rinse empty containers, and use rinsewater as product. Dispose of rinsed, empty containers in the trash. ☐ Dispose of unused pesticides as hazardous waste.
- Sunnyvale residences. Place yard waste in approved containers at curbside for pickup on waste collection days. Commercial entities may take yard waste to the Sunnyvale SMaRT station for recycling. Contact the Sunnyvale Recycling Program (408) 730-7262 for further information. ☐ Collect lawn and garden clippings, pruning waste, and

Curbside pickup of yard waste is provided for

- tree trimmings. Chip if necessary, and compost if possible.
- Do not blow or rake leaves, etc. into the street, or place yard waste in gutters or on dirt shoulders. Sweep up any leaves, litter or residue in gutters or on

Pool/Fountain/Spa Maintenance Draining pools or spas

When it's time to drain a pool, spa, or fountain, please be sure to call the Sunnvvale Water Pollution Control Plant (408) 730-7270 before you start for further guidance on flow rate restrictions, backflow prevention, and handling special cleaning waste (such as acid wash). Discharge flows should be kept to the low levels typically possible through a garden hose. Higher flow rates may be prohibited by local ordinance.

- ☐ Never discharge pool or spa water to a street or storm drain; discharge to a sanitary sewer cleanout.
- ☐ If possible, when emptying a pool or spa, let chlorine dissipate for a few days and then recycle/ reuse water by draining it gradually onto a landscaped area. OR
- ☐ Contact the Sunnyvale Water Pollution Control Plant (408) 730-7270. You may be able to discharge to the sanitary sewer by running the hose to a utility sink or sewer pipe clean-out.
- ☐ Do not use copper-based algaecides. Control algae with chlorine or other alternatives, such as sodium bromide.

Filter Cleaning

- ☐ Never clean a filter in the street or near a storm drain. Rinse cartridge and diatomaceous earth
- If there is no suitable dirt area, call the Sunnyvale Water Pollution Control Plant (408) 730-7270 for instructions on discharging filter backwash or rinsewater to the sanitary sewer.

Fresh Concrete and Mortar **Application**

- Patio Construction Workers

Storm Drain Pollution from Fresh Concrete And Mortar Applications

Doing the Job Right General Business Practices

- Wash out concrete mixers only in designated wash-out areas
- ☐ Wash out chutes onto dirt areas at site that do not flow to

- protected from rainfall and runoff and away from storm drains or waterways. Protect dry materials from wind.
- drains, rainfall, and runoff.

- Don't mix up more fresh concrete or cement than you will use in a two-hour period.
- ☐ Set up and operate small mixers on tarps or heavy plastic drop cloths.
- areas, not down the driveway or into the street or storm drain.
- ☐ Wash down exposed aggregate concrete only when the wash water can (1) flow onto a dirt area; (2) drain onto a bermed surface from which it can be pumped and disposed of properly; or (3) be vacuumed from a catchment created by blocking a storm drain inlet. If necessary, divert runoff with temporary berms. Make sure runoff
- does not reach gutters or storm drains. ☐ When breaking up pavement, be sure to pick up all the pieces and dispose of properly. Recycle large chunks of broken concrete at a local recycling facility. Call the Sunnyvale Recycling Program at (408) 730-7262 for information.
- ☐ Never bury waste material. Dispose of small amounts of excess dry concrete, grout,

Roadwork and Paving

Who should use this

information?

Road Crews

Developers

Home Builders

 Driveway/Sidewalk/Parking Lot Construction Crews Seal Coat Contractors Operators of Grading Equipment,

Paving Machines, Dump Trucks,

Concrete Mixers Construction Inspectors General Contractors

Storm Drain Pollution from Roadwork

Road paving, surfacing, and pavement removal happen right in the street where there are numerous opportunities for asphalt, saw-cut slurry, or excavated material to illegally enter storm drains. Extra planning is required to store and dispose of materials properly and guard against pollution of storm drains, creeks, and the Bay.

- ☐ Schedule excavation and grading work during dry ☐ Check for and repair leaking equipment.
- construction sites.
- clean equipment.
- ☐ When refueling or when vehicle/equipment
- Doing the Job Right General Business Practices
- ☐ Develop and implement erosion/sediment control plans for roadway embankments.
- ☐ Do not use diesel oil to lubricate equipment parts or

Recycle used oil, concrete, broken asphalt, etc.

whenever possible, or dispose of properly.

Call the Sunnyvale Recycling Program at

(408) 730-7262 for information.

☐ Take broken up concrete to a local recycling facility.

- ☐ Perform major equipment repairs at designated areas in your maintenance yard, where cleanup is easier. Avoid performing equipment repairs at
- maintenance must be done on site, designate a location away from storm drains and creeks.

During Construction

in use.

- Avoid paving and seal coating in wet weather, or when rain is forecast, to prevent fresh materials from contacting stormwater runoff.
- ☐ Protect drainage ways by using earth dikes, sand bags, or other controls to divert or trap and filter
- ☐ Never wash excess material from exposed aggregate concrete or similar treatments into a street or storm drain. Collect and recycle, or dispose to dirt area. ☐ Cover stockpiles (asphalt, sand, etc.) and other
- from rainfall and prevent runoff with temporary roofs or plastic sheets and berms. ☐ Park paving machines over drip pans or absorbent

☐ Clean up all spills and leaks using "dry" methods

(with absorbent materials and/or rags) Dig up,

remove, and properly dispose of contaminated soil.

construction materials with plastic tarps. Protect

- ☐ Cover and seal catch basins and manholes when applying seal coat, slurry seal, fog seal, or similar
- material (cloth, rags, etc.) to catch drips when not

excess abrasive gravel or sand. Avoid over-application by water trucks for dust

Asphalt/Concrete Removal

rainfall or runoff.

drains.

■ Avoid creating excess dust when breaking asphalt or concrete. ☐ After breaking up old pavement, be sure to remove all chunks and pieces. Make sure

☐ When making saw cuts, use as little water as

Collect and recycle or appropriately dispose of

remove from the site. Cover or protect storm drain inlets during saw-cutting. Sweep up, and properly dispose of, all residues. ☐ Sweep, never hose down streets to clean up tracked dirt. Use a street sweeper or vacuum

truck. Do not dump vacuumed liquor in storm

broken pavement does not come in contact with

possible. Shovel or vacuum saw-cut slurry and

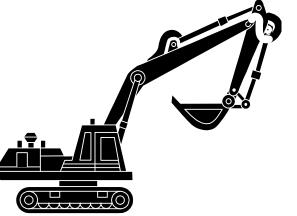
- **Heavy Equipment Operation** Who should use this
- Vehicle and Equipment Operators Site Supervisors

information?

General Contractors

Home Builders

Developers



Stormwater Pollution

from Heavy Equipment on Construction Sites Poorly maintained vehicles and heavy equipment that leak fuel, oil, antifreeze or other fluids on the construction site are common sources of storm drain pollution. Prevent spills and leaks by isolating equipment from runoff channels, and by watching for leaks and other maintenance problems. Remove construction equipment from the site as soon as possible.

repair leaks.

Doing the Job Right

- Site Planning and Preventive Vehicle Maintenance Designate one area of the construction site, well away from streams or storm drain inlets, for auto and equipment parking, refueling, and
- routine vehicle and equipment maintenance. Contain the area with berms, sand bags, or other barriers. ☐ Maintain all vehicles and heavy equipment. Inspect frequently for and
- ☐ If you must drain and replace motor oil, radiator coolant, or other fluids on site, use drip pans or drop cloths to catch drips and spills. Collect all spent fluids, store in separate containers. Recycle them wherever possible, otherwise, dispose of them as hazardous wastes.

Do not use diesel oil to lubricate equipment parts, or clean equipment.

washing off site where cleanup is easier.

Perform major maintenance, repair jobs, and vehicle and equipment

during rain events. ☐ Use as little water as possible for dust control. Ensure water used doesn't leave silt or discharge to storm drains.

- filters onto a dirt area, and spade filter residue into soil. Dispose of spent diatomaceous earth in the

- **During Construction**
- ☐ When cleaning up after driveway or sidewalk construction, wash fines onto dirt
- ☐ Protect applications of fresh concrete and mortar from rainfall and runoff until the material has dried.
- and mortar in the trash. Never dispose of washout into the street, storm drains, drainage ditches, or streams.

Spill Cleanup

Clean up spills immediately when they happen. ☐ Never hose down "dirty" pavement or impermeable surfaces where fluids

away" with water, or bury them.

☐ Clean up spills on dirt areas by digging up and properly disposing of contaminated soil.

Report significant spills to the appropriate local spill response agencies

immediately. In Sunnyvale, dial 9-1-1 if hazardous materials might enter the

☐ Sweep up spilled dry materials immediately. Never attempt to "wash them

have spilled. Use dry cleanup methods (absorbent materials, cat litter, and/

or rags) whenever possible and properly dispose of absorbent materials.

If the spill poses a significant hazard to human health and safety, property or the environment, you must also report it to the State Office of Emergency

Use only water for any onsite cleaning. Services 1-800-852-7500. Cover exposed fifth wheel hitches and other oily or greasy equipment